

2015-106 AUDIT SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES
University of California and California State University
Local Government Tax Revenue

The audit by the California State Auditor will provide independently developed and verified information related to property tax revenue losses to local governments as a result of expansions of a selection of California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) campuses and any related increases in revenue to local fire departments that provide safety services to campuses and their surrounding communities, and will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Review and evaluate the laws, rules, and regulations significant to the audit objectives.
2. Determine the CSU and UC policies, procedures, and practices for engaging with the local community or other regional association of governments prior to approving any property acquisition, construction, or expansion projects for campus use.
3. For the past five fiscal years, determine the budgetary allocations made by the CSU and UC systems to a selection of four CSU and three UC campuses for the provision of fire protection and emergency medical services to the campuses and surrounding communities.
4. To the extent possible, identify all property that has been acquired and/or constructed by a selection of four CSU and three UC campuses since January 1, 2010. Using this information, determine the following:
 - a. The current assessed value of all the property.
 - b. In cases where the CSU or UC campus has acquired property that was previously private, the estimated loss of property tax revenue associated with the property.
5. Determine whether any CSU or UC campus has an existing contract, agreement, or any other “in lieu” payment arrangement with its neighboring fire agency to offset the revenue loss to that agency due to campus property acquisitions, construction, or expansions.
6. For a selection of four CSU and three UC campuses, determine whether the local government that hosts the campus or its property has placed a local tax measure on the ballot to pay for public safety services since January 1, 2010.
7. Review and assess any other issues that are significant to the audit.